CHIRUHI

by Kawachi Haruka

Story 1

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If nothing changes
whether one laughs or cries,
then in this lifetime,
I refuse to cry.

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春

Spring

Chiruhi

Day of Scattering

If nothing
changes
whether one
cries or laughs,

then
in this
lifetime,

I shall
refuse
to cry.

TIME FOR YOUR MEAL.

ORIN,

CLINK

THANK YOU.

CLINK

ICHIYA SUSHI.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO EAT?

ON THE OPPOSITE SHORE.

DO HAIRDRESSERS HAVE THAT MUCH SPARE TIME?

HE'S HERE AGAIN.

On that day...

How disgusting.

FWOOSH

SNAP

ORIN

YOU HAVE ONE MORE JOB BEFORE MEALTIME

HMPH

BE GLAD

MATSU-NAKAYA-SAN HAS COME FOR YOU.

SURE

I HAVE MISSED YOU SO MUCH

ORIN-CHAN

KLUK

.....
HEHEHE
WE WILL BE WAITING
I WILL COME AGAIN WHEN IT IS TIME TO VIEW THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS
BETTER THAN CATCHING SOME DISEASE
THAT MAN ALWAYS GOES TOO FAR
HOW MUCH DO YOU CHARGE TO ROW A PATRON IN YOUR BOAT?
BASTARD! YOU'RE USELESS LIKE THIS

YOUR FORELOCKS WERE JUST CUT

GUESS YOUR FOREHEAD MUST HAVE LOST TO THE RAZOR BLADE

SWISH

YOU.

*T/N: Young men shave the area around their forehead when entering adolescence.

LET ME SEE HIM FOR A BIT

SORRY?

AH, THIS IS A "RANCHU"*

WHO IS HE?

*T/N: Highly-regarded fancy goldfish in Japan

.....

THEY PUT UP A GOLDFISH SHOP ON THE OTHER SIDE

BEAUTIFUL, ISN'T HE?

REMIND ME OF YOU.

Trip

THE SHINY RED PARTS HERE

.....

YOU CAN HAVE IT

CREAK

I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU.

CREAK

I KNOW

HE'S A REGULAR CUSTOMER

THEN I'LL BECOME

NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS

YOUR EARLIER PATRON CAN'T YOU REFUSE HIM?

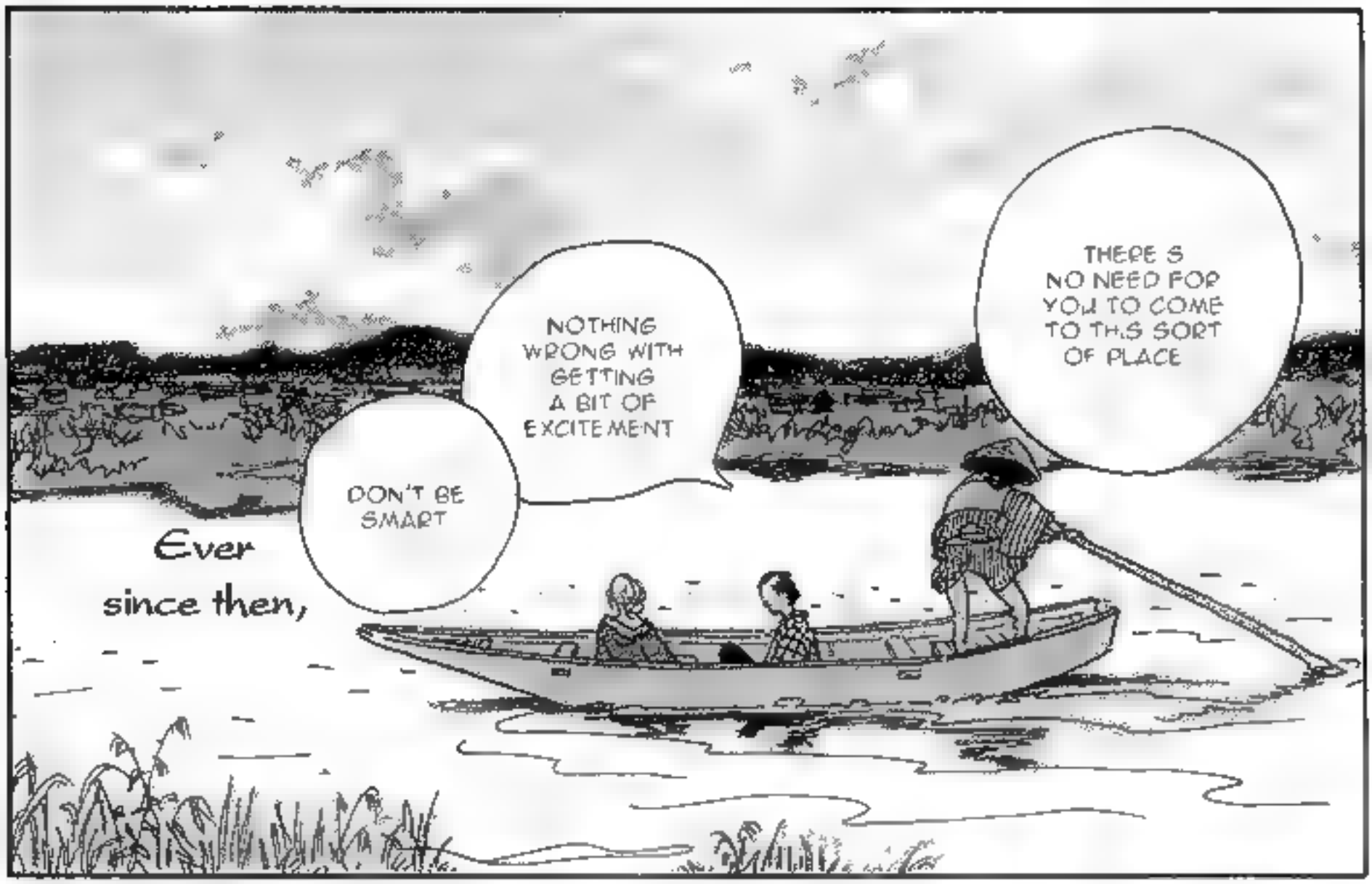
twist

.....

splash

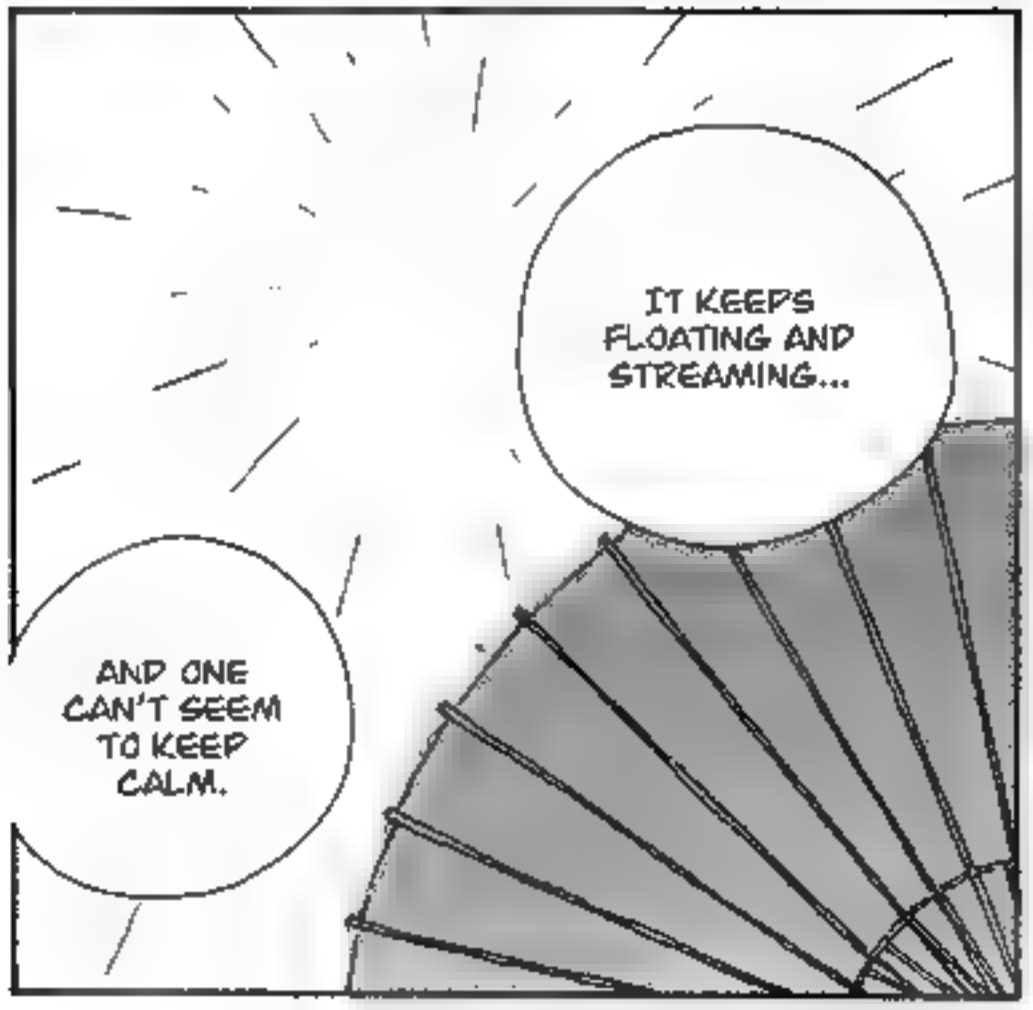
HOW ECCENTRIC FOR SOMEONE SO YOUNG

YOUR REGULAR CUSTOMER


DON'T BE SMART
NOTHING WRONG WITH GETTING A BIT OF EXCITEMENT
THERE S NO NEED FOR YOU TO COME TO TH.S SORT OF PLACE
Ever since then,

to feed his goldfish.

the man would come every third day...



IT'S A LIVING HELL.

WHAT NOW?

BUT I DID LEARN ONE WAY OF DOING IT

NO.

THOUGHT SO.

HOW ABOUT COSMETICS?

OF COURSE

HAVE YOU EVER BOUND A WOMAN'S HAIR?

L KE A PR NCESS SOME DAY.

THEN MAKE ME UP

WOMEN'S HAIR

.. MUST BE ONE FRIGHTENING DRAGON PALACE.

YOU, AS A PRINCESS?

WHAT ARE YOU DO NG. ?

ARE SO SOFT

YOU'RE A STRANGE FELLOW.

DUNNO.

AHA HAHA

MY NAME IS SHINKICHI, AND HE S SOME-THING LIKE A BROTHER TO ME

SHOCK-ING.

WHERE DID KINKICHI COME FROM?

WHAT?

SEE YOU, KINKICHI.

IF I'M STILL ALIVE

I'LL COME AGAIN

.....

SHALL WE GO?

NOW THEN.

Pat Pat

MY GOOD-NESS!

THWACK

TCH!

THUD

HAVEN'T SEEN ME FOR A WHILE, AND YOU'VE ALREADY BECOME THIS STUBBORN?

SPLASH

HUH?

YOU FILTHY WHORE.

YOU LEFT THE BOAT W THOUT PAYING EXTRA.

BUT THAT GENTLEMAN ALWAYS PAYS TEN TIMES AS MUCH

THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT

DON'T BE SO UNCOUTH

ONE SHOULDN'T NITPICK ON HOW OTHERS CHOOSE TO PLAY

HUFF.

DON'T GET YOURSELF IN TOO DEEP.

GURGLE

I WON'T SPEAK TO

YOU'RE STILL YOUNG AFTER ALL

YOU ROTTEN DEMON.

On top of this boat, men come to draw out many different things.

TAKE THIS.

WHY DON'T YOU SAY SOMETHING, EH?

What is it about me that he hates so much?

Not like there's anything in this life to regret.

YOU BITCH!

WHAT?!

Maybe I should just end it here.

SPLASH

Come to think of it,

then it's a cheap price to pay.

just by drinking muddy water,

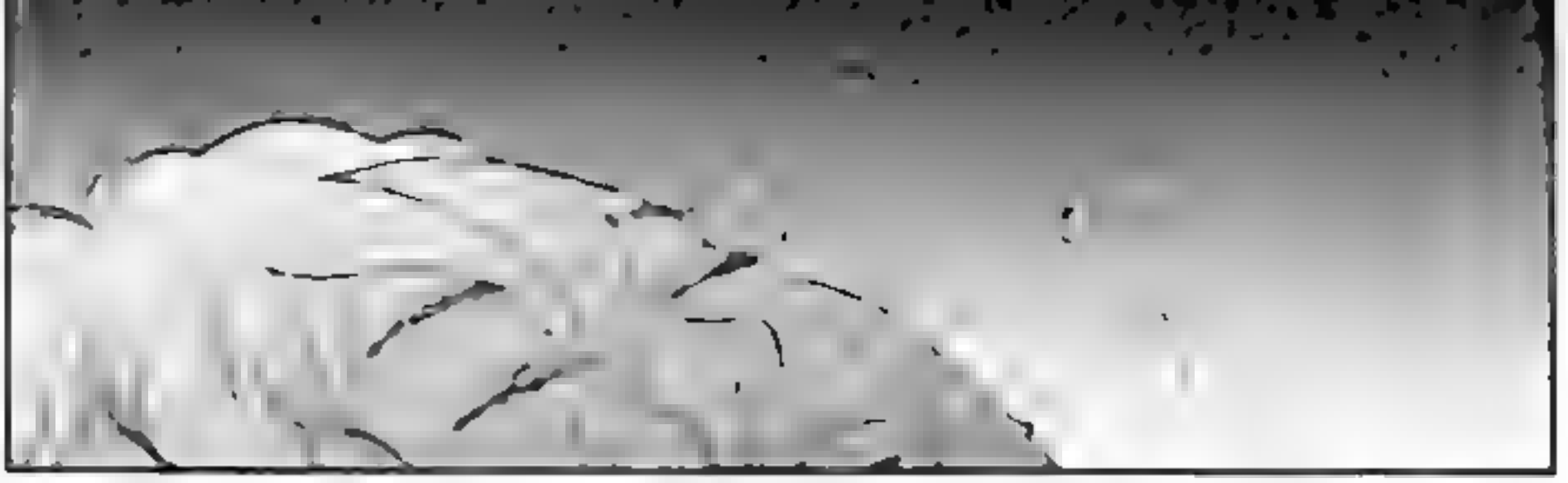
If I get to bid farewell to this life of prostitution

I'm sinking one way or the other.

.....

H.

HEY!



ORIN-SAN, YOU'RE THE ONE
WHO'S SHAKING
Now that you mention it...
YOU'RE

IF ONLY I DIDN'T HAND YOU OVER TO THAT ROTTEN BASTARD

WHAT?

IT'S THE SEASON FOR FLOWER VIEWING, ISN'T IT?

Shinkichi's tears are hot on my cheek.

IF ONLY I DIDN'T GET OFF THE BOAT ..

HMM, SORRY, SORRY, I SEEMED TO HAVE DROPPED THE "THING".

SPEAK CLEARLY

NO ONE WILL PAY ANY NOTICE.

EVEN IF IT'S INCONVENIENT TO LOSE ONE OR TWO OF THESE LOW-GRADE PROSTITUTES,

SO THERE'S NO NEED FOR ME TO BUY A REPLACEMENT, IS THERE?

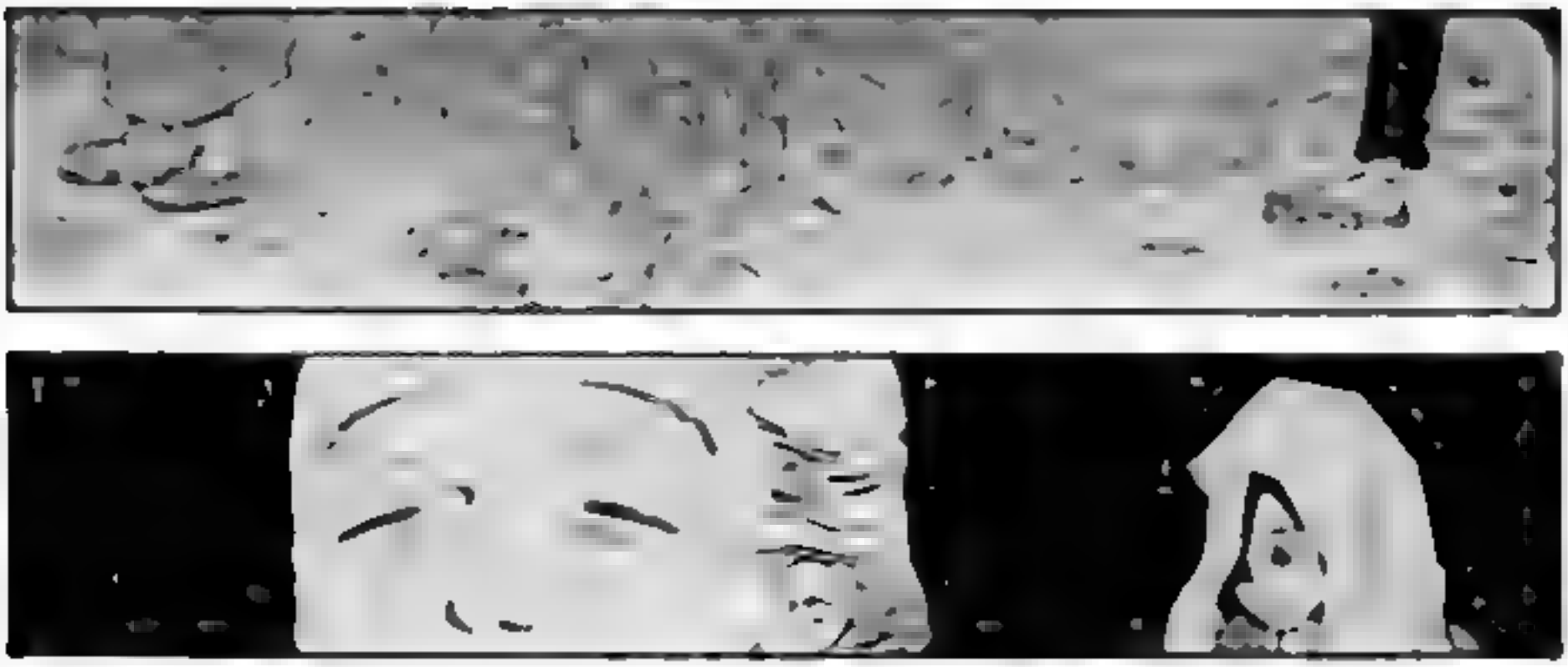
THE KID CAME TO FISH HER OUT RIGHT AWAY,

What is the point in covering my ears...

WE'LL RIDE YOUR BOAT,

AND VIEW THE BLOSSOMS,

IF YOU'RE STILL ALIVE.



rustle

I'VE PREPARED IT

WHERE'S MY EXTRA PAYMENT?

I'M HERE TODAY...

TO TURN YOU INTO A PRINCESS

?

swish

swish

swish

STAY AWAY FROM EDO FOR SOME TIME.

I HAVE TO...

TO YOU...

BUT I WILL DEFINITELY RETURN...

THE WIND

WHEN I DO...

MAKES IT HARD TO HEAR.

IT SEEMS UNIMAGINABLE...

FOR THIS PLACE TO BE HELL.

Hell is
right
here.

nor going
against
the flow
to get to
the opposite
shore,

Where
neither going
with the flow
to see the
ocean,

will be
granted.

KINKICHI...

Chiruhi / END